



NEWS RELEASE

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Man Charged with Fatal DUI Crash in Venice

A man was charged today with a fatal crash that claimed the life of one of three Georgia firefighters on vacation in Venice, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Benjamin Albert Seider (dob 7/19/93) of Los Angeles faces one felony count each of gross vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated, driving under the influence of an alcoholic beverage causing injury and driving with a .08 percent blood alcohol content causing injury.

Case SA095478 includes an allegation that the defendant personally inflicted great bodily injury to the victims.

Seider pleaded not guilty to the charges and is scheduled to return on June 8 in Department W31 of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Airport Branch.

The defendant allegedly ran a red light at the intersection of Washington Boulevard and Ocean Avenue on April 10, prosecutors said. Seider's vehicle crashed into a Volkswagen causing Ron Herens to be ejected from the vehicle. Herens did not survive and the two other victims in the vehicle were seriously injured, prosecutors added.

If convicted as charged, Seider faces a possible maximum sentence of more than 12 years in state prison.

The case remains under investigation by the Los Angeles Police Department, West Traffic Division.

[About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](#)

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to protecting our community through the fair and ethical pursuit of justice and the safeguarding of crime victims' rights.